

North Viet Nam

Up to October 19, 1968

3,213 U.S. aircraft were downed

VIETNAM COMRADE

October 21

1968

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5th Year

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South Viet Nam

P.L.A.F. PUNCH CONSTANTLY GROWS IN WIDESPREAD RELENTLESS ONSETS

*In August and September, the South Viet Nam P.L.A.F. and People Knocked Out 123,000 Enemy Troops Including 45,000 G.I.s and Foreign Mercenaries, Depleted to Impotence a Reinforced U.S. Brigade, Wiped Out or Decimated 2 Regiments, 44 Battalions and 175 Companies, Put out of Action 3,000 Military Vehicles, Aircraft and Vessels Including 1,685 Tanks and Armoured Cars, 158 Ships and Cargo-Boats, 300 Cannons and Mortars and Destroyed or Burnt Hundreds of Military Posts, Bridges and Storehouses.

*People's Power Set Up in Many Regions.

P.L.A.F. Command's Communique No 10 — Page 4

North Viet Nam Bags Its 3,200th U.S. Plane

A VICTORY OF OUR WILL TO FIGHT AND WIN

— Excerpt from a Nhan Dan editorial of October 13, 1968 —

ON October 9 last, our Vinh Linh fighters shot down an American L-19, bringing the total number of American aircraft downed over the North to 3,200.

THE loss of 3,200 aircraft over North Viet Nam is nothing short of a bitter defeat for the American aggressors. Not only because they have lost billions of dollars worth of planes and bombs and thousands of pilots, but precisely because they have in the main fallen short of the objectives of their war of destruction. Over six months ago, in face of their heavy setbacks in both zones of our country, and in the hope of soothing world and American opinion, which was strongly critical of them and was demanding a complete end to the bombing and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, Johnson and his

gang resorted to the "limited bombing" trick. And while at the Paris talks the American delegates were showing the greatest obstinacy, their air and naval forces hit with greater fury at the provinces of Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and on the Vinh Linh area. The tonnage of bombs and shells dropped on these regions sharply increased. They thought that with these barbarous methods of attack they would be able to impair the Vietnamese people's fighting will and create more difficulties for our Southern compatriots.

BUT the realities of the resistance put up by our armed forces and people over the past six-and-a-half months have proved that all the perfidious schemes of the American aggressors have come to grief. During this period, they lost 400 more planes and hundreds of pilots. The people in Nghe An, Ha

Tinh, Quang Binh, and the Vinh Linh area, fired by the sacred appeal of President Ho, have evinced extraordinary firmness and determination. Our fighters and compatriots on the frontline in the Fourth Military Zone, during nearly four years of confrontation with American air, naval and artillery forces, have defied all difficulties, hardships and sacrifices and recorded brilliant achievements in combat, production, communications and transport playing the front.

Greeting the 23rd anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day, valiant Vinh Linh on August 19 came off with flying colours in all three battles fought that day, tumbling three enemy aircraft. The punishment was meted out to the highly dangerous Lam Son planes from mid-August until now, eight of them have been blasted to pieces. Indeed

(Continued page 3)

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S MESSAGE

TO CADRES, TEACHERS, WORKERS, EMPLOYEES, PUPILS AND INFANT STUDENTS, GENERAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS, COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION CLASSES, SECONDARY VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ON THE OPENING OF THE 1968-1969 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear nephews, nieces, and grandchildren,
On the occasion of the beginning of the 19th Anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation school year, I send you all my affectionate greetings.

Despite the fact that the whole country is at war, our education is growing stronger and developing faster than ever.

I am pleased to learn that in spite of difficult circumstances, there are at present in the North of our country 13,000 general education schools, a primary school for each village, an elementary school for each of many villages, and at least one secondary school for every district. Over six million people are going to school, of whom over a million cadres, workers and peasants are attending complementary education classes. Enrollment in higher education establishments and secondary vocational schools has increased nearly three times compared with the period before the resistance against American aggression. More than 30 colleges and 300 secondary vocational schools have been completing closely with various government departments and regional administrations in giving a strong impulse to the training of cadres, either full-time or part-time.

All schools have exerted great efforts in the emulation movement for good teaching and good learning, for greater security for teachers and students, and for better material and spiritual life.

Although the American aggressors have been frenetically attacking the North, not only have we inflicted on them dismal failures, but our political, economic, cultural and also defeated them on the front of education and cadre training.

All this is due to our Party's sound line, to the heroism of our armed forces and people, and also to the fact that in the schools have won through many difficulties to fulfill your duties.

On this occasion, I commend you for your efforts and achievements.

However, the American imperialists continue obstinate. The revolution in our country still has many difficulties and hardships to ride over until complete victory. At present, you are entrusted by our Party and people with even more important tasks than before. So I would like to remind you of the four points:

— Both teachers and students must constantly enhance their love of the fatherland and socialism, strengthen their revolutionary feelings towards the workers and peasants, show absolute loyalty to the revolution and complete confidence in the leadership of the Party, stand ready to fulfill any task assigned by the Party and the people, and castly strive to be worthy of our heroic Southern compatriots.

— No matter how great the difficulties, they must continue to emulate each other in teaching well and learning well. On the basis of political education and good ideological leadership, they must strive to raise their cultural and professional level, so as to find practical solutions to the problems posed by the revolution in our country and in a not distant future, attain the heights of science and technique.

— Together you must organize and manage better and better your material and spiritual life at school and take over better care of your health and security. The teachers' tasks are very important and very glorious.

Education is an affair of the masses. To fulfill all your tasks, you must promote socialist democracy to the full, establish good relationships and close solidarity among the teachers, between the teachers and the students, among the students themselves, among cadres of various levels, and between the school and the people.

As the aim of education is to train men and women who will continue the great revolutionary work of our Party and people, all government departments, Party organizations and regional administrations at all levels must pay even greater attention to it, show more solicitude for the schools in every respect, and help forward education.

I am looking forward to hearing of more achievements by you all.

Affectingly, Ho Chi Minh

We shall win.

UNCLE HO

October 15, 1968

U.S. Imperialism's Aggressiveness Bared by Its Own Words

THE recent statements by U.S. President Johnson and by presidential candidates of both the Democratic and Republican Parties concerning the Viet Nam problem all sounded like salvos against independence and freedom.

In his speech on October 10, Mr. Johnson once again showed self-satisfaction at the desirability of his limited bombing of Indochina. The U.S. "good will for peace" and refused to stop unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war of the U.S. in North Viet Nam. Moreover, the U.S. President said that if the Vietnamese people would not "meet" the U.S. demand for "reciprocity" in the form of a "states would find itself in a 'strong position on the battlefield'." This threat was heard Mr. Johnson's intention to persist in his aggressive war in Viet Nam and his backing of the main issue of the Paris talks the progress of which has been prevented by his stubbornness.

In the same speech, Mr. Johnson campaigned for Mr. Humphrey, his Democratic challenger, who was elected in the race for the White House. Mr. Humphrey has been opposed by U.S. public opinion because, though trying to pass for a "dovish candidate," he has thus far for distasteful himself from Mr. Johnson's Viet Nam policy. In his September 30 speech, he declared: "I have promised that my first priority as President should be to end the war and obtain an honorable peace." Shortly afterwards, however, he said he "would not withdraw a unilateral withdrawal" from South Viet Nam, con-

THE 26th session of the Paris talks between the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government and that of the U.S. Government took place on October 16.

Taking the floor first, U.S. representative A. Harrison reiterated the slanderous charge that North Viet Nam was aggressive against South Viet Nam and again skirted the issue of the unconditional ending of U.S. bombings and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

In his speech, Minister of State Xuan Thuy pointed out that it was the U.S. that had systematically sabotaged the 1954 Geneva agreements on Viet Nam and prevented the Vietnamese people from building a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, prosperous and powerful Viet Nam. He denounced the crimes perpetrated by the U.S. in both South and North Viet Nam and stressed:

"The cessation of the U.S. aggression war in Viet Nam will only benefit the

causing the cessation of the bombing of North Viet Nam, he claimed for "reciprocity" in the form of a "states would find itself in a 'strong position on the battlefield'." This threat was heard Mr. Johnson's intention to persist in his aggressive war in Viet Nam and his backing of the main issue of the Paris talks the progress of which has been prevented by his stubbornness.

In the current election campaign, Republican candidate Nixon has been actively taking advantage of the failure of the Democratic Party and the Johnson administration's Viet Nam policy to win support at home. His "stop-the war" signboards, however, cannot conceal his war-yr-

Mr. Nixon's bellicose stand with regard to the Viet Nam problem is known to everybody. In recent years, he had constantly been raising for an intensification and expansion of the war, and he was elected President on March 24, 1968 that a hell to the bombing would only prolong the war, and last July, he said there was no alternative to the pursuit of the Viet Nam war.

Since he was nominated Republican Presidential candidate in September 1964, Mr. Nixon has many times declared that he is not for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam so long as "aggression" there continues. Neither does he recognize the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation nor agree to the cessation of

PARIS TALKS' 26th SESSION

U.S. itself, and will spare hundreds of thousands of American youths a useless death in Viet Nam. It will annually save 30 billion dollars, which can be spent on improving the welfare of the American people, especially the Black Americans. The people all over Viet Nam and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are

The D.R.V.N. envoy then recalled the process of emergence and growth of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. He said that in their hard and valiant struggle against the domination of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, and under the leadership of the N.F.L., the South Vietnamese people have been recording ever bigger military and political successes, especially during their general offensive since early this year.

the bombing of North Viet Nam unless the Vietnamese people show "reciprocity".

On October 7, Mr. Johnson said that the U.S. would offer support to help North Viet Nam build up its shattered economy. On condition of course that the Vietnamese people will the U.S. rule. South Viet Nam perpetuates the position of Viet Nam. He claimed that he had the Johnson administration barred military means and he had advised, he said, that he would help it up unless the Vietnamese people "educate" the war.

The Vietnamese people feel most strongly against Mr. Nixon's bellicose, belittling policy and craftily manoeuvres regarding the Viet Nam problem. They also denounce Mr. Johnson's and Mr. Humphrey's obscurity which blocks the progress of the Paris talks and the peace of the Viet Nam issue.

A peaceful settlement in Viet Nam is totally unacceptable to the U.S. imperialists. In their aggression in Viet Nam, withdrawal of U.S. troops, recognition of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and talks with it about questions concerning South Viet Nam are the first and foremost steps, an unconditional cessation of U.S. bombings and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. to allow the Paris talks to proceed to other questions of interest to both sides.

Underlining the steady expansion of the liberated areas which now cover over 60 per cent of the South Viet Nam territory with a more than to million population, the U.S. imperialists are clear that the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is in practical operation like a government: it sees to the safety of the people's lives, runs and develops the economy and culture and endeavours to build and strengthen the liberated areas in every respect.

The N.F.L. Political Program which fully meets the most current aspirations of the South Vietnamese people has rallied the people of all walks of life in South Viet Nam under its liberation banner, the Vietnamese representative said.

He declared in conclusion: "To put it in a nutshell, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is the authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people.

A VICTORY..

(Continued from page 1)

this period has witnessed an all-time record of 1,190 downed over Vinh Linh.

Keeping up continuously the offensive, from September 8 to 31, all regions in the Fourth Military Zone scored kills every day, bagging a total of 46 American aircraft. September was one of the most fruitful months for our armed forces and people since April '65. Enemy planes, 63 in number, were shot down on September 1, within barely two minutes, a white flight of American planes was destroyed over Quang Binh, comprising one F-4C and one RF-4C. Many air-planes were captured. On the 17th, in several brilliant battles, Nghe An, Quang Binh and Vinh Linh shot down six American aircraft.

THE splendid series of successes won by the North since the knocking down of the 3,000th American aircraft marks new progress by our people's armed forces. General occasions, the gunners of Vinh Linh brought down an enemy plane with barely two or four rounds. Our air force and missile units, sowing through all enemy schemes and seizing every favourable opportunity, have fiercely set on the enemy and chalked up new exploits. The network of his weapons at altitude by the valiant militia and self-defence units of all localities in the Fourth Military Zone is a constant source of fear for the U.S. air buccaners. The fourteen missiles fired during the past period by their infantry weapons bespeak the strength of those who, "plough or

harbour in one hand, gain in the other." stood ready to fire at the enemy wherever and whenever they come. The Quang Binh militia and self-defence units alone have been credited with eight planes, which raised the total since the start of the U.S. war of destruction to 97. On September 17, three militiamen of the Quang Binh militia and three militia members knocked out of the sky an American helicopter, killing all its crew.

OVER the past six odd months, the American aggressors have dropped 40 in fratricide hundreds of thousands of tons of bombs on our territory, forests, bridges, etc. in the hope of cutting off our supply routes to the front. But all their efforts have proved fruitless. Our army engineers, young volunteers, cadres, workers, and people in Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Vinh Linh, inspired by the grim resolve and a high creative spirit, have maintained a constant flow of traffic. Our vehicles keep advancing at a steady pace on the road to victory.

Alongside enemy strikes, natural calamities cause many difficulties to our people. Drought, floods and typhoons happened in close succession. The typhoons, the age-old experience, industriousness and courage, our people closed their ranks, overcome all difficulties and boosted production. We have derived great strength from President Ho's sacred appeal to triumph not only on the battlefields but also on the ricefields, in factories and construction sites. In spite of enemy fierce attacks or natural disasters, many districts such as Thanh Chong, Nam Dan, Quynh Lau and the outskirts of Vinh (Nghe Binh) under the leadership of the entire race, Emulating Quang Binh and Ha Tinh, Nam Dan has launched a movement in which the entire people participate in communication and transport work, determined to defeat the American aggressors. Fearless of bombs and shells, cultural and educational work never ceases developing. School enrolment in the provinces of the former Fourth Zone has considerably risen for the 1968-1969 school year.

Those great and successful efforts spell out the love of the country and socialism of the people of the North, who, for the sake of the fatherland's independence and freedom, are resolved to fight shoulder to shoulder with their Southern fellow countrymen and bring our resistance against American aggression, for national salvation, to complete victory.

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THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

BY the end of September, the textile service of North Viet Nam has fulfilled 85 per cent of its yearly plan and 95 per cent of the cloth quota.

In the past few years, in its war of destruction against North Viet Nam, the U.S. has hit with great violence at textile mills. The U.S. has a plan of destruction to 97. On September 17, three militiamen of the Quang Binh militia and three militia members knocked out of the sky an American helicopter, killing all its crew.

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TEXTILE SERVICE RECORDS NEW SUCCESSES

ed Forces' offensives, the D.R.V.N. Government decided to present the South Vietnamese people with 30,000 tons of rice, 10,000,000 metres of cloth and 100 tons of medicines. The decision was given an enthusiastic response by textile workers throughout North Viet Nam. Many settlements of the "March 8th" Textile Factory in Hanoi, notwithstanding the difficulties caused by anti-air raid dispersion have in-

During this campaign, the workers have made hundreds of suggestions for nationalisation and found thousands of technical innovations which helped increase productivity considerably. The labor force in many enterprises has been re-distributed. Weavers have come forward to operate new machines and to do repairs more quickly.

At the Nam Dinh Textile Complex more than 60 technical innovations have been recorded which raise efficiency

from 50 to 350 per cent. Workers of the blanket sector have increased the output of a machine from 15 to 37 blankets per shift.

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Within An Hour, 3 U.S. Aircraft Brought Down Over Con Co Island

ON October 16 last, at 6.30, 6.40 and 6.50 the U.S. Navy Super-Sabre and a F-4 Phantom were shot down over Con Co island off the coast of Vinh Linh, on the 17th parallel.

four libraries (two in Hanoi, one in Hue and one in Saigon). These libraries are open only to a very restricted public. The total of volumes available in the public libraries did not exceed the 10,000 mark. After the signature of the Geneva Accords in 1954, in their withdrawal to South Viet Nam, the French authorities took with them 151 cases of books of value to the restoration of the national archives of the Vietnamese.

With the complete liberation of North Viet Nam, the role of the libraries changed completely. The Central National Library in Hanoi opened wide its doors to a new public comprising students, peasants, civil servants and also children who have their own reading room in the establishments. Its resources increased quickly thanks, partly to the expansion of the editing services and partly to the help provided by the other socialist countries, and also to the broadening exchange with the libraries of the National Library has established relations with more than 150 national libraries or cultural and scientific

Recently a conference was held in Hanoi by the Ministry of Education to sum up the results obtained during the last three years by these classes. It was graded by the presence of Prime Minister Pham Van Dong who gave directives for their position.

The quality of these maths special classes is remarkable: most of them have been standard-bearers in the province.

The first class started at the beginning of the 1957-1966 school year under the direction of the Hanoi Central College and was attended by 37 pupils selected from among those who had got the best marks in mathematics in the 8th form of secondary schools in North Viet Nam. Since then other classes have been opened in the Thanh Hoa, Haiphong and Vinh and various secondary schools for enrolment picked through maths contests for pupils of 7th year classes of secondary schools. The pupils of these special classes also learn other subjects of general education and receive all-round training in political, ethics, physical culture and sports.

With regard to the special subject taught in these classes besides regular courses, teachers guide their pupils in extramural activities such as

Term begins at a secondary school at Xuan Dinh in the Hanoi outskirts.

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

U.S. PULL-OUT FROM SOUTH VIET NAM AND HALT TO BOMBING OF NORTH VIET NAM DEMANDED ALL OVER THE WORLD

STATEMENT OF THE
D. P. R. OF KOREA
FOREIGN MINISTRY

On October 13, 1968 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement strongly condemning the U.S. imperialists' stepped-up air raids on the D.P.R.V. territory and aggressive war in South Viet Nam. Korean Central News Agency reported. The statement also said, "The American imperialists must immediately stop the bombing and other war acts against the D.P.R.V. and withdraw from South Viet Nam their aggressive troops and those of their satellites."

THE U.S. CONGRESS
AT U.N. SESSION

According to foreign sources, at the current session of the U.N. General Assembly, the foreign ministers of Hungary, Sweden, Denmark, R.A.R.-Ghana, Ghana, Iraq, Zambia, Mauritania, etc., have voiced their

support to the Vietnamese people's struggle and energetically denounced the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam. They unanimously demanded that the U.S. end all raids and other acts of war against the D.P.R.V.

T. Nilsson, Swedish Foreign Minister, declared that the responsibility for the war in Viet Nam is on the U.S. and that the U.S. must be taken, namely to end the bombing of North Viet Nam, tell on the U.S. and to stop the bombing and other acts of war against the D.P.R.V.

Paul Hartling, Foreign Minister of Denmark, pointed out that the refusal by the U.S. to stop the bombing of North Viet Nam was the major impediment to the Paris talks between the U.S. and the D.P.R.V.

Hamdi Mukamania, Minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, stated that his government strongly supported the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people in all zones of Viet Nam against U.S. aggression.

WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH VIET NAM
IMPLEMENTING the resolution of the extraordinary session of the Afro-Asian

Solidarity Organization and the appeal of the World Peace Council, many countries have observed the "Week of Solidarity with Viet Nam" during the past week.

In the U.S.S.R., the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee kept the "Week of Solidarity with Viet Nam" in mind in its activities. The committee issued an appeal demanding that the U.S. immediately and unconditionally end the bombings and other acts of war against the D.P.R.V.

In Poland, delegates of the Polish U.N. Executive Committee, of academic circles and professional associations declared that their international and national task is to give the greatest assistance to the Vietnamese people now fighting for a just cause. The crises committed by U.S. imperialism in South Viet Nam are reminiscent of the barbarities of the Hitler hordes in Poland, they said. The U.S. must end the bombing of Viet Nam and withdraw its aggressive army therefrom, they stressed.

In Bulgaria, on October 10, 1968, the Bulgarian Father-

land Front called on the Bulgarian people once again to express their solidarity with, and firm support for, the heroic Vietnamese people.

In Mongolia, Ch. Lodoibamba, President of the Mongolian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, spoke on T.V. the Mongolian solidarity with, and support to, the Vietnamese people.

In Great Britain, the British Committee for Medical Aid for Viet Nam called on the British people to contribute to the funds for the equipment of three hospitals in Viet Nam. On October 14, 1968, the Cardiff youth people donated blood for the Vietnamese people.

In Norway, the "Week of Solidarity with Viet Nam" opened on October 14, 1968. The Norwegian Viet Nam Solidarity Committee published a declaration pointing that on the threshold of a complete defeat, the U.S. are committing most abominable crimes against the Vietnamese people. Under these circumstances, it added, the Norwegians must step up their struggle

against U.S. imperialism and do their best to help the Vietnamese people.

The Secretariat of the World Federation of Free Trade Unions launched an appeal affirming its fraternal solidarity with, and full support to, the workers and people in both zones of Viet Nam in their heroic struggle against U.S. aggression.

ATTITUDE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

On October 15, 1968, a delegation of this organization including many members of the C.C. and women from France, the Soviet Union, Belgium, West Germany, Spain, Portugal, India, Sudan, South Africa, Australia, Mexico, called on the Minister of State Xuan Thuy, D.R.V.N. representative at the Paris talks, to voice full support to the legitimate demand of the people and government of the D.R.V.N. They insisted that the U.S. unconditionally stop the bombings and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N.

On behalf of the delegation, Mrs. Marcelle Huismans, President of the French Women's Union, expressed the admiration of the world women for the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese women and people against U.S. aggression, and their determination to step up their activities in support of the fighting Vietnamese people.

BLACK U.S. MAJOR FLAYS COLOUR BAR IN U.S. ARMY

A Black U.S. major declared in Saigon on October 13 that his military services were "a strenuous crusade of racism on the face of the earth." Western sources revealed.

Major Lowell Merritt, staff member of the Military Assistance Command in Viet Nam (M.A.C.V.), said he was "fed up" after 30 years of service.

In an eight-page broadside handed to newsmen at the end of the evening military briefing, the black officer wrote: "The American people have for years been told that the military leads the nation in breaking down and eliminating all vestiges of segregation and discrimination." "This is a blatant lie," he wrote.

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MASS EDUCATION DEVELOPS STEADILY

According to still incomplete figures by Khaozai Paolet Lo, the free zone in Savannakhet province in Laos now has 12,000 students including more than 5,600 women going to spare-time literacy classes, twice as many as in early 1967.

Among them, several thousand women have become literate.

In pre-liberation days, 95 per cent of the inhabitants of the province were illiterate.

As for women, almost all of them were ignorant. In many evening classes have

WHY Did He Die?

thought every movement hurts, he tries again to find his canteen where it should be on his belt. But instead, his hand only touches a wet sticky mass that he knows is part of his body. The pain is unbearable. He stops with a groan and lies still. It seems darker, colder. How long will it go on like this, he questions... and "WHY?"

The board meeting is adjourned. The men in the expensive suits stand up, start and now, talking, laughing.

"...yes, a little tired," one is saying. "We've got to have law and order. Insurance rates going up... bad for business... and now there's this trouble with the Army. Kids don't want to go over and fight for us any more."

Over the past six months, the educational service in the province has trained 186 teachers to give a piece to the literacy campaign in the mountain regions.

Remarkably enough, all people in the 15-45 age group in Na Bon and Sop Nan villages have become literate.

VETERAN OF VIET NAM TELLS OF MILITARY BRUTALITY BRASS POLICY KILLS VIETNAMESE AND G.I.s (YOU'RE EXPENDABLE)

In May, 1967 I was assigned to Duc Co, west of Pleiku and near the Cambodian border, as a place consisting mainly of a Vietnamese village, a U.S. Special Forces camp and two artillery batteries, all crowded within one perimeter. Beside my bunker was a ramshackle "hospital" for the Vietnamese. I went in there every day and saw a few patients on bare bunks just lying there untreated. Medicine and band-aids were scarce, and they amounted to aspirin and band-aids. One of the patients was a seventeen-year-old girl suffering from hepatitis, which she'd contracted from bad water. A few weeks later she died. Why hadn't she been properly treated and her life saved? It's evident the Brass didn't care. I was angry.

The G.I.'s who are used as instruments of brutality against the brave Vietnamese are not given much consideration either by the Brass. A rank-and-file G.I. is considered expendable by the officer class. This was plainly demonstrated to me when a guy from my home town was used as a target for a live-fire drill. He was killed. I was angry. I was angry. I was angry.

Yet according to Washington we're in Vietnam to help the Vietnamese. Later I was engaged in a cordon search of a Vietnamese village, a routine occurrence. Bright and early the unsuspecting inhabitants were rounded and taken to two separate groups at the edge of the village, one of men and boys, the other of women, girls, and babies. All day the search lasted, messes belonging to the soldiers, yet the Brass found nothing. The villagers, including old people and children, were not allowed to eat all day, nor was any other consideration given them. I saw an Army intelligence agent whose foot in the groin of one man. Villagers were intimidated.

The Brass didn't care. I was angry. I was angry. I was angry.

Caodaists Fight...

destroying hundreds of hectares of crop land and gardens. In the flash of their Spring victories and activated by a deep hatred for the enemy, the Caodaists took vigorous protest actions against the crimes of the American aggressors and their henchmen. Some of the brave involved twenty or thirty thousand people who brought with them carbines shooting the barbarity of the district and provincial puppet authorities and the Holy Sea to use its influence to get damages for families who had suffered losses in life or in property. Funerals of the victims were staged with the participation of religious dignitaries and hundreds of pupils in mourning.

At the time the province had tried to intimidate the demonstrators but in face of their solidarity had had to admit his guilt and indemnify them.

These fierce and fruitful efforts gave a strong impulse to the Caodaists' morale and

Anecdotes on P.L.A.F.

On their recent attacks on South Viet Nam towns and cities, the P.L.A.F. fighters' behaviour deeply impressed the townsfolk. Here below are some anecdotes:

THE JACKET OF A P.L.A.F. FIGHTER

One of the most conspicuous because of a bomb shell in a U.S. raid on Tra Khe, in the region of the G.I.s. The people who were taking her to the hospital were intrigued by a purple shade of a soldier's jacket dangling at his side. After she came to the aid in a moving voice, to those who wanted to know its story.

"That morning, enemy planes bombed Tra Khe just as I was in the hospital. The P.L.A.F. fighters helped all people and children one by one into safety. I was hesitating, not because I found gunshot, but I was afraid of losing all my belongings. A fighter rushed in and urged me to

take cover, saying, 'You'll get killed. The fire is spreading fast.' I looked around as the flames which were creeping in. He knowingly said to me, 'Go into the shelter. I'll look after your things.' When I had been taken into shelter he ran back to my house and took out, together with some furniture, all my money and jewellery which I wrapped up in his jacket and hid in my waist. Before running to another house which was burning, he gave me a piece of advice. 'Don't leave cover until the bombing is over.' If it were not for him, you see, I'd have lost my life and all my belongings too!"

American and puppet soldiers were trying to burn down the houses of the P.L.A.F. fighters. They were moved down by our men. Some really soldiers who were caught in the act of pillaging goods of the Xuan Loi grocery were shot dead.

The M. 113 armoured cars were destroyed in Phan Thi Chau street. In another street a downed helicopter was burning. Its flames rising metres high. While fighting the enemy our fighters moved the fire with water, earth and sand. Others led old people and children to safety. Some held the hand of one of them and said in a trembling voice, "The Yankee and puppet soldiers are fire to our houses, you put it out. How nice of you!"

WE NEVER TAKE A NEEDLE OR A LENGTH OF THREAD FROM THE PEOPLE

The fire trucked off by the Yankees was spreading in the Quang Binh radio shop. It's true, then Tra town. The men of a Liberation platform stationed nearby rushed in and asked the shop owner to open the door so that they could help him put out the fire. The owner weaved, fearing that something should be stolen. The fire grew wild and the shelves were unbalanced. After a long time of his property, the owner gradually opened the door.

After having put out the fire, the radio sets and some valuables were found in the shop. The P.L.A.F. fighters, leaving the shopowner to his independence, took no P.L.A.F. fighters.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military Operations

- * South of the D.M.Z., 900 Adverse Troops Killed or Wounded, and 27 Armoured Cars and 20 Planes and Helicopters Destroyed or Shot Down in the First 11 Days of October.
- * A Battalion F.C.P. Destroyed, 2 Companies and 2 Platoons of the U.S. Forces Decimated Northwest of Saigon on Oct. 7 and 8.
- * Intense Activity of Patriotic Artillerymen against Many Enemy Positions on the Whole Territory.
- * Heavy Enemy Losses Inflicted by Guerilla Warfare.

NORTHWEST of Saigon, the P.L.A.F. continue to hit hard at enemy troops, especially paratroopers, and have pounded several adverse positions, while in the Mekong Delta, the guerillas have increased the intensity of their operations in the province of My Tho where they have repeatedly pumped artillery fire into military targets in the provincial capital.

In the coastal provinces of Central Trung Bo, to the North-Northwest of Saigon, the enemy losses around Thuong Due rise higher every day. Meanwhile, the P.L.A.F. have bombarded the 2nd Division H.Q. and other military targets in Quang Ngai city, the Nuoc Man airfield near Da Nang and another airfield in Nha Trang.

Further North, close to the D.M.Z., 900 enemy soldiers, mostly U.S. marines, were put out of action in the first 10 days of October, North of Highway No. 9. Guerilla warfare in the mountain spurs of Quang Tri and Thua Thien rose to the period from Sept. 10 to Oct. 8 inflicted on the enemy casualties estimated at nearly 500 men, most of them G.I.s.

SAIGON AREA AND MEKONG DELTA

THE P.L.A.F. successfully attacked many enemy entrenched positions or units on raiding operations in various parts of Nam Bo (ex-Cochinchina), *Giet Phung* Press Agency reported. On Oct. 4, near Vung Liem (90km Southwest of Saigon), a company of puppet Division 13 was destroyed in a 7-minute battle. The guerillas seized a large quantity of weapons and war material and the next day, intercepting river-born reinforcements, they took a further toll of enemy lives. All told in these 3 days, they wiped out 250 adverse soldiers and sank or burnt 4 vessels.

On Oct. 7 and 8, about 50km Northwest of Saigon, in the province of Tay Ninh, elements of the U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division were fiercely engaged on many occasions at Long Hang, losing a battalion (C.P.), a company and 2 platoons wiped out, and another company decimated.

In the same province, a puppet paratrooper battalion intercepted during a looting operation at Ben Dinh (20km South-Southeast of Tay Ninh) suffered more than one hundred casualties.

Southeast of Saigon, on the Long Tre river, one of the main sea channels, a 10,000-ton cargo ship was heavily damaged by patriotic gunners, 25km Southeast of the city.

The P.L.A.F. artillery was very active in this area and pumped a devastating fire into a U.S. artillery position at Giong Lon (18km Northwest of Saigon) on Oct. 4, putting 120 G.I.'s out of action and destroying 4 tanks, 6 guns, 6 cannons and heavy

mortars, 3 vehicles and 2 warehouses; the puppet 7th Division H.Q. and other targets on Oct. 10 and 11 in My Tho city where people of several districts rose up against local tyrants and hoisted a N.P.L. flag atop a 20-metre mast at an enemy signal camp; the Hien Thien sub-sector H.Q. at Go Da (25km Southeast of Viet Ninh) on Oct. 13; and the next day several enemy positions Northeast of Saigon.

COASTAL PROVINCES TO THE NORTH-NORTHWEST OF SAIGON

GIAI PHONG Press Agency also related that in the Da Nang sector between Oct. 4 and 6 the enemy lost some 100 killed or wounded and 7 planes and helicopters shot down around the base. On Oct. 7, Western newswriters reported violent onsets by the patriots in hand-to-hand combats on columns sent in to rescue this beleaguered post.

The Nuoc Man helicopter base, Southeast of Da Nang, came under shelling again on Oct. 8 and sustained serious losses. A similar situation was reported at Nha Trang airfield where 18 aircraft, 30 vehicles and 3 warehouses were destroyed or burnt down by an artillery barrage unleashed by the P.L.A.F. on the night of September 21 to 22. Quang Ngai city (70 km Southeast of Da Nang) was violently shelled by patriotic artillerymen on the night of Oct. 13 to Oct. 14. The artillery fire caused heavy damage to the city and to the 2nd Division H.Q. and to the administrative and military garrisons. At the same time, according to Western news-

agencies, a U.S.-puppet position North of the city was plastered by the P.L.A.F. infantry.

North of Highway No. 9, close to the D.M.Z. at the

17th parallel, some 60 combats were reported between Oct. 1 and 11, including an ambush on a U.S. 40-vehicle armored column near Cao Thien in which 30 G.I.'s were killed. 7 armored cars destroyed. Total enemy losses in this 11-day period amounted to nearly 900 men (including more than 600 Americans) killed or wounded, 27 tanks and armored cars destroyed, 20 planes and helicopters shot down and 7 motor launches and vessels sunk or burnt.

GUERRILLA WARFARE BLEEDS THE ENEMY WHITE

THIS week's bulletin strikingly featured a step-up of guerilla warfare on the whole territory of South Viet Nam. Guerillas and regional troops harassed the enemy without respite, causing him important, though sometimes not so spectacular, losses. Thus, from Sept. 17 to Oct. 5, in the 3 Mekong

Delta provinces of Tra Vinh, Vinh Long and Ha Tien, they chalked up 400 enemy troops put out of action and 4 combat launches and war vessels sunk or set afire. Worth noticing is that in fighting off enemy raids on Phan Quoc Island in the Gulf of Thailand, they killed or wounded 6 American and 36 puppet troops on Sept. 20. In Cu Chi district, widely known for highly developed guerilla warfare, between Oct. 1 and 8, guerillas of 3 communes, some 8 km Northwest of Saigon, wiped out 126 adverse soldiers and brought down one helicopter.

In Quang Tri province, South Viet Nam's northernmost sector, and regional troops militiamen of Gio Linh and Cam Lo districts fought 200 battles in the 3rd quarter of this year, killing or wounding 1,500 enemy troops (including 1,200 G.I.'s), destroying or damaging 115 military vehicles and shooting down or burning 20 planes and helicopters.



U.S. tanks destroyed in Tay Ninh province

CAODAISTS FIGHT U.S. AND PUPETS

AFTER the failure of Cao Vung -- an anti-French movement at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century -- a number of patriots in Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper) got back to their native place in the countryside and continued their passive anti-French resistance under the form of non-cooperation with the foreign rulers. In the depression years of 1926-1930, French capitalist firms availed themselves of the economic crisis to lay hands on extensive mortgaged lands. While the first Vietnamese communists internalized their underground activities to awaken and organize workers and poor peasants, petty bourgeois elements deprived of their lands as a result of the competition by French capitalists and driven to the provinces, set up a politico-religious organization named Cao Dai. This community was made up of people from all walks of life and consisted of many acts the ranks of which

were swollen by the working peasantry following the economic depression of 1930. Its following which runs to about 1.2 million lives scattering in all provinces of Nam Bo, while its Holy See is at Tay Ninh.

The Cao Dai military force about 25,000 strong was split up in 1950 after Ngo Dinh Diem had started his anti-religious sect war. A number of Cao Daiists then withdrew to the hills of Tay Ninh to work for a living and practise their religion, but like their fellow-religionists living there, they continued to be oppressed and persecuted. Little by little they realized that so long as foreign invaders remained in the country, the people could not live in peace and that only by joining forces with their compatriots could they drive out the aggressors, wipe out the traitors and regain their freedom of creed.

On October 12, 1967, 20,000 Cao Daiists demonstrated in front of the Tay Ninh Holy See against house evic-

tion and land grabbing by the Yankees and quislings. This successful action marked a great turning point in the Cao Daiist movement.

In the general attack and concerted uprisings early spring of this year, the Cao Daiists in the whole of South Viet Nam, particularly in Tay Ninh, put up a remarkable show. They saw to the supply of food and ammunition, evacuated the wounded, served the battlefront, helped the army men in combat, wiped out the quislings and die-hard thugs in order to wrest back their right as masters of the land.

On August 18, 19 and 20, 1968, with flames, cannons and toxic chemicals the enemy laid waste the fertile and populated areas in Tay Ninh province and around the Holy See. They dropped incendiary bombs and fired rockets on Long Tre market causing heavy civilian casualties, burning hundreds of houses and

(Continued page 7)